(c) and (d) It is too early to make in assessment of the performance of the agriculture sector in 2002-03 because even kharif crop sowings have not been completed so far.

(e) The total stocks of foodgrains in the Central pool held by Food Corporation of India (FCI) and State Agencies as on 1.7.2002 are 63.05 mitlion tonnes.

Gene Banks for foodgrain plants

† 1771. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Council of Agricultural Research and the International Institute of Plant Genetics have jointly set up gene bank to save a redevelop the foodgrain plants of rare species facing extinction;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are also formulating any scheme for creating awareness among farmers of the country, to protect such plants;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether Government propose to award special package or give encouragement to farmers, for redeveloping such type of species?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b)The Indian Council of Agricultural Research has set up a gene bank at the National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources (NBPGR) to conserve plant genetic resources. The first storage module was installed in 1984, and the new gene bank was commissioned in 1996 which was set up with the assistance under the Indo-United State Agency for International Development (Indo-USAID) Plant Genetic Resources Project. The gene bank is used to conserve agriculture related plant genetic resources in cultivation or under threat.

(c) to (e) National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources is organising grassroot level training programmes for general awareness about plant genetic resources management and conservation involving farmers in different phytogeographical regions of the country. Nine such grassroot

† Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

level training programmes were organised during 2001-2002. The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation is the nodal department for implementation of the various provisions of the Protection of Plant Verieties and Farmers' Rights Act 2001. The Act provides for the constitution of Gene Fund which may be applied for meeting the expenditure for supporting the conservation and sustainable use of genetic resources including *in-situ* and *ex-situ* collections and for strengthening the capability of the Panchayat in carrying out such conservation and sustainable use under the Clause-45(2) (c) of the aforesaid Act.

Gujarat proposals for animal husbandry and horticulture development

1772.SHRI BACHANILEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the proposals for animal husbandry and horticulture development of Gujarat pending for financial assistance;

(b) since when they have been pending and the reasons therefor;

(c) by when they are likely to be cleared; and

(d) the funds allocated under these schemes during the last three years for Gujarat particularly for the Saurashtra and Kutch regions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRIHUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d)The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

MSPs for agricultural products

† 1773. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details Minimum Support Price fixed for all the agricultural products and the foodgrains, during the last three years; and

(b) the details of crops whose prices fell below their Minimum Support Price during the same period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) A statement showing the

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